Thursday, January 17, 2008

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 14

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a 36-month requirements supply contract with GT DISTRIBUTORS, INC., Austin, TX, for Whelen brand lightbars and accessories in an estimated amount not to exceed \$420,000, with three 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$180,000 for the first extension option, \$200,000 for the second extension option, and \$220,000 for the third extension option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$1,020,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$105,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of the Communications and Technology Department. Funding for the remaining 27 months of the original contract period and the extension options is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Barbara McConnell, Buyer II, 972-4009

Purchasing Language: Lowest bid of two bids received.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract will provide the Wireless Communication Services Division (WCSD) with a constant source of Whelen lightbars and accessories. WCSD is responsible for maintaining the Whelen brand light bars that are installed on public safety vehicles operated by various City departments. The purpose of these light bars is to alert traffic of potentially hazardous conditions, fast-moving vehicles, and lane closures; therefore, the safety of drivers and officers depends on the optimal functioning of these light bars. These parts and accessories will be ordered on an as-needed basis.

MBE/WBE solicited: 0/2 MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. Fifty notices were sent, including two WBEs. There are no known MBEs available for these commodities. Two bids were received, with no response from the WBEs.
- c. GT Distributors, Inc. is the current contract provider and the pricing submitted indicates 0% increase from last contract award in January 2007.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Lowest bid received.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with the Wireless Communication Services Division's recommended award.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and on the Internet.